ARRGH! MARVEL COMICS GROUP™

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ARRGH!™



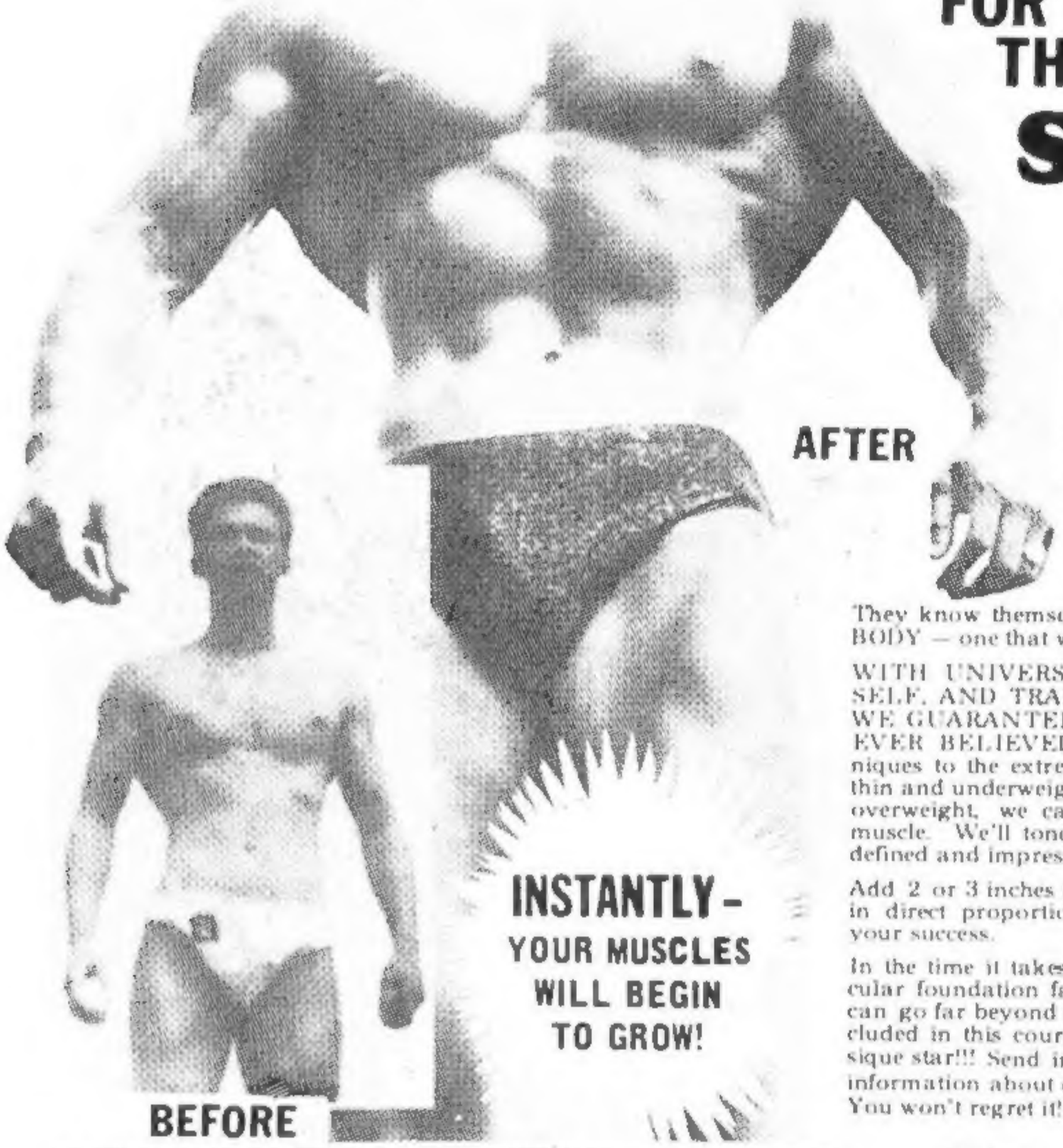
IMPOSSIBLE?



"Every successful bodybuilder has got to use the most advanced bodybuilding methods available-UNIVERSAL BODYBUILDING offers the best! Using UNIVERSAL methods, I have made excellent gains!"

Brian Easdaley

NOT FOR THE SUPER BODYBUILDING SYSTEM!



BE BETTER THAN THE BEST, BE DYNAMIC!

MOST MEN NEVER REALIZE THEIR POTENTIAL FOR MUSCULARITY. Why? Probably because they've never come across or taken advantage of a training program quite like the one we offer here at UNIVERSAL BODYBUILDING. Our course has the ULTIMATE MASTERPLAN for TOTAL BODY DEVELOPMENT!

Very few men are satisfied with the way they look at present. They know themselves that they wouldn't mind having a REALLY MASCULINE BODY — one that will "turn on" the girls and make the guys envious.

WITH UNIVERSAL METHODS, YOU CAN BREAK OUT OF YOUR "OLD" SELF, AND TRANSFORM YOUR BODY INTO AN ATTENTION-GETTER!!! WE GUARANTEE TO IMPROVE YOUR BODY FAR BEYOND WHAT YOU'VE EVER BELIEVED POSSIBLE! We have perfected bodybuilding training techniques to the extreme, so that we can offer you the fastest gains possible. If you're thin and underweight, you'll be astonished at how quickly muscles appear. If you're overweight, we can help you to trim down the fat and replace it with rock-hard muscle. We'll tone up your abdominal area, and show you how to obtain a well-defined and impressive waist.

Add 2 or 3 inches to your arms, 4 or 5 inches to your chest — your rewards will be in direct proportion to your effort and accomplishments — nobody sets a limit to your success.

In the time it takes to complete this 12 lesson course, we can guarantee you a muscular foundation fantastic enough to be developed to your fullest potential!!! You can go far beyond mere "improvement" with the Advanced Training Techniques included in this course. We can give you the firm, rippling, muscular body of a physique star!!! Send in for our FREE COLORFUL BROCHURES TODAY (fantastic information about our course — loaded with unbelievable photographs). You won't regret it!!!

BE GREAT - BE SOMEBODY SPECIAL!

Improve your health, self-confidence and your outlook on life as you become more muscular. Regardless of your age, height or present build, we'll help you build a fabulous body. Thousands of people have taken this course with fantastic results — why not you? Whatever you look like today, we can improve on it. We guarantee it!!!

- ☐ **ARMS** — Develop big, powerful arms — the kind girls love to be held in! Command respect from everyone you meet!
- ☐ **CHEST** — Is your chest sunken and unimpressive? No more! It's easy to build a massive chest. You can measure 45, 47, or even 50 inches!
- ☐ **BACK** — Develop your upper back, and get that outstanding "V-Shape!" Often within one week you'll be able to see that wedge formation begin to take shape — it's a real attention-getter!
- ☐ **SHOULDERS** — Get rid of those puny shoulders! Instead, fill your shirts with bulging muscles!
- ☐ **LEGS** — Put some muscle on those spindly legs! Muscular legs will give you extra power like you've never dreamed possible!
- ☐ **ABDOMEN** — Trim and hard — that's the way your abs should look. Get rid of your pot-belly, improve your digestion, and get that washboard waist—all when you develop those abdominal muscles!



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STORY BY JACK YOUNGER

ART BY JERRY GRANDENETTI

INKED BY SPRINGER

BONG BONG BONG BONG BONG BONG! BONG BONG!

JEWELRY

HOTEL

NO

SLOW

STOP

ONE WAY

SQUEEK SQUEEK SQUEEK

CALM AND QUIET... THAT'S HOW I LIKE MY TOWN.

SQUEEK SQUEEK SQUEEK SQUEEK SQUEEK SQUEEK SQUEEK

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"IT WAS ALMOST **MIDNIGHT**. CHICAGO, MY TOWN, WAS **QUIET**.

"I WAS ON MY WAY BACK FROM COVERING THE **ANNUAL SHEEPHERDERS' CONVENTION** FOR THE WIRE SERVICE I WORK FOR.

STOP

"I'M A **REPORTER**.

SQUEEK... SQUEEK... SQUEEK... SQUEEK... SQEEK... SQ

"I WAS REPORTING IN TO THE **OFFICE** TO SEE MY BOSS, **TONY VINAIGRETTO**.

WIN

"MY NAME IS **KARL COALSHAFT**!

WIN

EEK... SQEEK... SQEEK... SQEEK... SQEEK... SQEEK

"BUT FRIENDS CALL ME..."

BONG! BONG! BONG! BONG

BONG! BONG! BONG! BING! BONG!

... THE **NIGHT GAWKER**!

"WHEN I GOT TO THE OFFICE I KNEW I WAS IN TROUBLE. I'M PERCEPTIVE THAT WAY.

I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU, COALSHAFT! YOU DON'T REALLY EXPECT ME TO APPROVE THIS STORY OF A MUMMY, WIPING OUT HALF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT?

BUT, BOSS-- IT HAPPENED! THERE WERE TWO HUNDRED EYE WITNESSES...

HEARSAY! ALL HEARSAY!

"I WAS RIGHT... TONY WAS UPSET.

I'VE WARNED YOU, COALSHAFT! FIRST YOU GOT ME FIRED FROM THE PAPER IN VEGAS, THEN FRISCO...

THUD!

NOW WE'RE IN CHICAGO... WORKING FOR A WIRE SERVICE WITH ONLY TWO SUBSCRIBERS!

CLUMP!

SMASH

BUT... BOSSss...

IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT, COALSHAFT! YOU DID THIS TO ME... YOU DESTROYED MY LIFE! YOU AND YOUR WILD STORIES! YOU AND YOUR MONSTERS!

THUD! MURCH! CLUMP

BUT... BOSSSs...

DON'T LEAVE, COALSHAFT! I'M NOT FINISHED WITH YOU!

DING-A-LING

A FEMALE VICTIM? -- PUNCTURE MARKS? -- BODY DRAINED OF ALL BLOOD? -- BAH, CALL BACK WHEN YOU HAVE A REAL STORY!

WHAT? BOSS -- LET ME!

NO KARL! NO WAY! NO STORY!!

BUT... IT MUST BE ANOTHER VAMPIRE MURDER! IT'S THE 50TH THIS MONTH!

SO, YOU THINK A MERE 50 KILLINGS CONSTITUTES A PATTERN?

HAH! WAIT'LL YOU'VE BEEN IN THIS RACKET AS LONG AS ME--

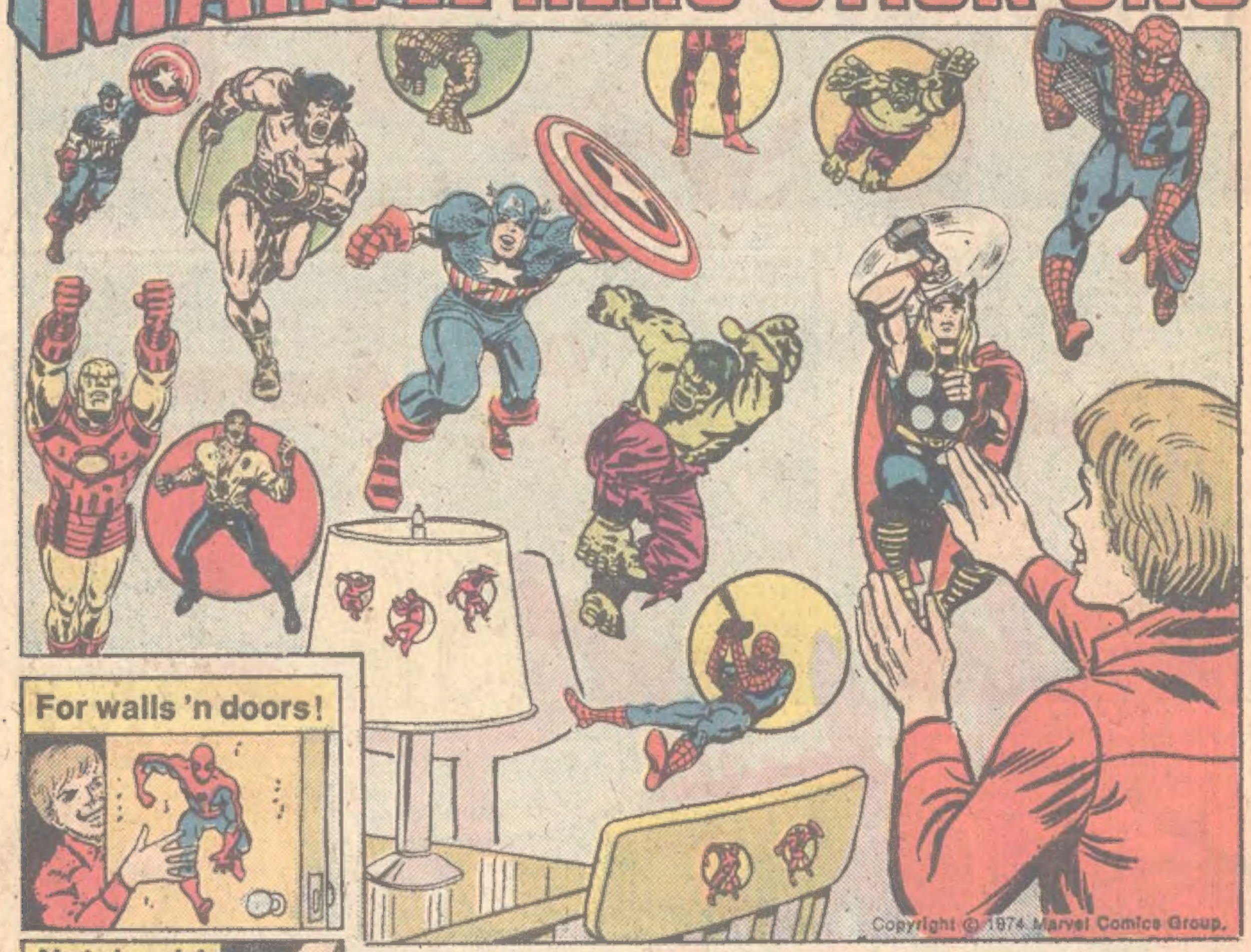
--THEN YOU WON'T JUMP TO CONCLUSIONS!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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ELECTROMAN

WHAT'S HAPPENIN?

NOTHING. I CAN'T SEEM TO SCORE WITH A DECENT JOB.

YOU KNOW HOW IT GOES...NO TECH SKILLS, NO GOOD JOB. AND I JUST CAN'T SEE GOING BACK TO SCHOOL OR...

JUST THEN...

KRASH!

HOLD IT, JIM! THERE ARE EXCITING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN **ELECTRONICS** FOR WELL-TRAINED PEOPLE. AND **YOU** CAN LEARN THE SKILLS YOU'LL NEED TO QUALIFY FOR THESE JOBS **RIGHT IN YOUR OWN HOME.**

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...BUT AS USUAL, I IGNORED MY STODGY SUPERIOR AND HEADED FOR THE MURDER SCENE...

WHAT DO YOU WANT, BOUNCE-CHEK?

WHAT DO YOU THINK? THIS IS THE 50TH VAMPIRE MURDER IN THE PAST MONTH. I WANT ACTION! I WANT A STORY!

YOU PRINT ONE WORD ABOUT VAMPIRES AND I'LL HAVE YOU SENT TO TRANSYLVANIA! NOW SPLIT!

CLICK!

CLICK

CLIK

CLIK!

HELP! GASP! HELP!
>PANT<

HISSSSSSSSs

IT'S THE VAMPIRE!

OPEN FIRE!

LOOK! COALSHAFT HAS A CROSS!

YEAH, HE'S NEVER WITHOUT IT.

URK!

KA-BLAM!

POW

CRACK

ZING!

PING! PONG!

BEEOW!

GURK!

HE IS NOW!

UNNGHH!

BOT

POW!

FOOLS! NONE CAN STOP MY BLOODLUSTING FANGS--

--NOR MY BAD BREATH, NOR MY ANCIENT UNWASHED BODY!

AIIIEEEEEE!

THUD!

WOW! WHAT ACTION! WHAT EXCITE-MENT! WHAT CRUSH-ING OF BONES!

CLICK

JUST ONE GOOD SHOT! THAT'S ALL I NEED!

WOK!

CLICK!

CRASH

THEN A DISBELIEVING WORLD WILL FINALLY REALIZE I SPOKE THE TRUTH!

UH, OH -- THE VAMPIRE'S SPOTTED ME! HE'S TURNING!

HISSSSSS

STEADY... DON'T PANIC... LET FANG-FACE COME CLOSER...

CLOSER...

CLOSER...

"AT LAST I HAD HIM! I REACHED INTO MY BAG FOR THE WOODEN STAKE I ALWAYS CARRY, AND...

NOW!

URKGHH

THAT BLINDING LIGHT!

CLICK!

HOLY COW! MARGE, YA WON'T BELIEVE THIS!

URKGHH!

NO PLAY STREET

STOP

ONE WAY

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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A LITTLE LESS THAN A MEAL. A LITTLE MORE THAN A SNACK.



SO HE WASN'T A VAMPIRE, EH? YOU PUMPED AT LEAST SIX HUNDRED ROUNDS INTO HIM AT POINT-BLANK RANGE... PASSING THROUGH AN INNOCENT VICTIM EN ROUTE!

HE'S EITHER A VAMPIRE OR A PIECE OF SWISS CHEESE!

YOU PANIC THE READERS WITH THAT TALE, COALSHAFT, AND I'LL...

YOU'LL NOTHING! I'VE GOT PHOTOS THIS TIME!

WRONG! YOU HAD PHOTOS! NOW HEAR ME. YOU DROVE A STAKE THRU A MAN'S HEART! TABLE THAT STORY... OR I'LL HAVE YOU DIGGING DITCHES IN THE GRAND CANYON!

SMASH!

"IT WAS THE HUNDREDTH STORY I'D LOST IN LESS THAN SIX MONTHS... AND MY HUNDREDTH CAMERA! IT SEEMED NOBODY WAS BUYING THE SUPERNATURAL THIS YEAR... NOBODY BUT ME. AND THEN MY POLICE RADIO BLARED...

CODE THREE! MAN IN WEREWOLF COSTUME HAS GONE BANANAS AT RIVOLI CINEMA!

WEREWOLF!?

NO PARKING NO STANDING NO

ONE WAY

THE RIVOLI'S ONLY THREE BLOCKS FROM HERE!

SCREECH!!

GROWL!

AIIEEE!

WOW! IT IS A WEREWOLF! A REAL ONE! GOOD THING I KEEP A SPARE CAMERA IN MY GLOVE COMPARTMENT!

AW, IT MUST BE JUST A PUBLICITY STUNT!

SURE, IT'S ONLY AN ACT!

GROWL!

LOOK OUT! HE MUSTA HEARD YA!

TOUCHY, AIN'T HE!

I HOPE YOU GUYS HAVE SILVER BULLETS!

OH, NOOO! NOT YOU AGAIN, COALSHAFT!

CLIK!

OKAY, MEN! OPEN FIRE!

BLAM!

TZING

POW

CLICK

WHAT'S GOIN' ON, HAROLD?

DON'T ASK, MARGE!

TZING

BEEOW

POW

ZIP

POW

BLAM!

WELL, CHIEF, YOU'VE WIPED OUT A POPULATION THE SIZE OF FARGO NORTH DAKOTA...

TINKLE SMASH BEEOW

BLAM BLAM BLAM

TZING

...BUT THE WEREWOLF'S STILL SMILING LIKE HE'S ON CANDID CAMERA!

I CARRY THIS SILVER BULLET FOR EMERGENCIES' I SUGGEST YOU USE IT!

YOU'RE UNREAL, COALSHAFT! UNREAL! OKAY, ANYTHING TO SHUT YOU UP!

BUT YOU'RE GONNA FIRE THE SHELL, COALSHAFT! POLICE OFFICERS CAN'T COMMIT CRAZY ACTS...

GULP!

...IT SAYS HERE!

I-IT FITS ANY SERVICE REVOLVER'

I'D LIKE TO FIT YOU -- INTO A STRAIT-JACKET!

I'M READY NOW... GOTTA KEEP COOL! MUSTN'T PANIC...

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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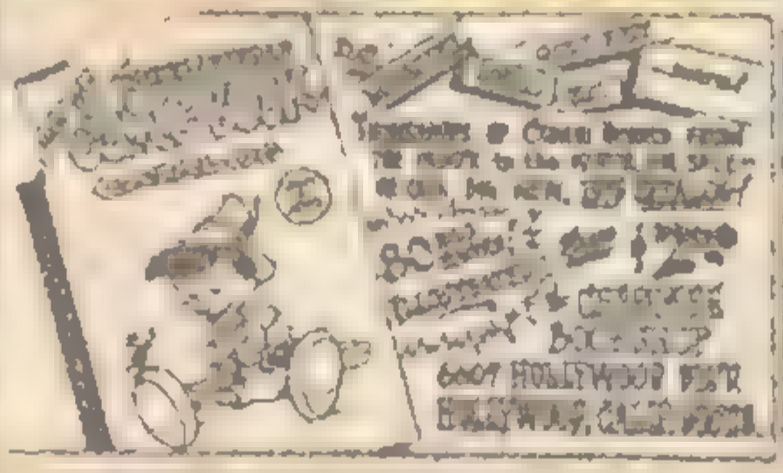
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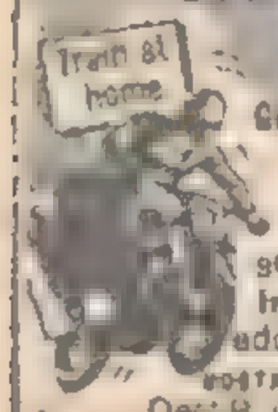
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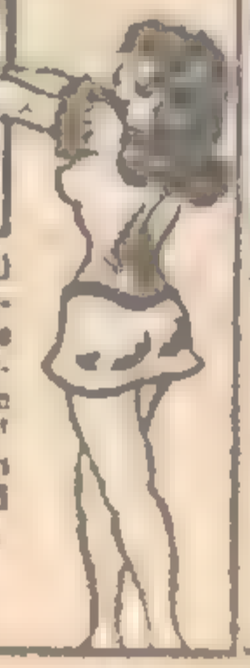
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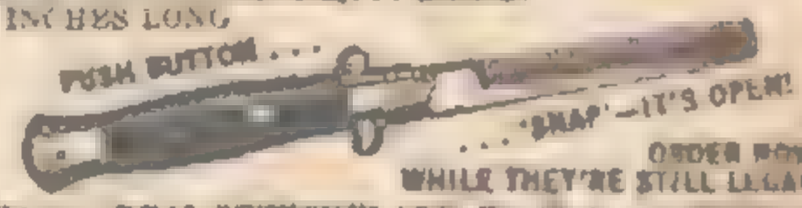
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WHAT'S COALSHAFT UP TO?

HIS EARS IN A LAWSUIT, I HOPE!

IT MUST BE A MOVIE!

AWOWL!

SQUEEK! SQUEEK! SQUEEK!

O-KAY, WOLF MAN-- F-FREEZE!

ROAR!

SLAM!!

I DID IT!

I GOT HIM!

I KILLED THE WEREWOLF!

WHAT A STORY! I'VE WAITED YEARS FOR THIS!

WHA--THE WEREWOLF--HE'S CHANGING BACK INTO HUMAN FORM!

THAT TEARS IT, COALSHAFT! YOU JUST KILLED A MAN!

BUT WHEN I SHOT HIM, HE WASN'T A MAN! HE WAS A WOLF!

TRY TELLIN' THAT TO A JURY!

BUT I HAVE PROOF! MY CAMERA.

YOU DROPPED YOUR CAMERA! HERE ARE THE PIECES!

NOW DRIFT! --BEFORE I RUN YOU IN!

"I DECIDED TO LEAVE. I HEADED BACK TO THE OFFICE AND VINAIGRETTO ...WITHOUT A STORY. SO FAR, THE SCORE WAS MONSTERS, 100 CITIZENS ZERO!

LET THE NIGHT GAWKER GO--!

SQUEEK! SQUEEK! SQUEEK! SQUEEK!

SQUEEK! SQUEEK! SQUEEK! SQUEEK! SQUEEK!

"ON THE WAY, I BOUGHT ANOTHER CHEAP CAMERA, VINAIGRETTO, FROM A GUY WHO LOOKED LIKE HENRY FONDA...

"I HOPED I HAD SEEN MY LAST MONSTER -- THAT THE CITY WAS FINALLY FREE OF ITS NIGHTLY MENACE.

"THEN I'D BE FREE, TOO ...FREE OF MY ACCURSED CONSTANT VIGIL!

SQUEEK!

"...FREE OF MY OBSESSION WITH NIGHT CREATURES!

"...CREATURES NO ONE ELSE WOULD BELIEVE EXISTED!

ANOTHER WILD GOOSE CHASE, EH? WHY DON'T YOU GIVE IT UP, COALSHAFT?

MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT, BOSS.

MAYBE I SHOULD QUIT TRYIN' TO PROVE THERE ARE MONSTERS IN THIS TOWN...

CHASH-CHASH-CHASH

GOOD! AT LAST YOU'RE GETTING SMART!

SURE. WHY SHOULD I WEAR MYSELF OUT TRYIN' TO MAKE PEOPLE BELIEVE WHAT THEY DON'T WANT TO?

MUST STRIKE NOW --WHILE HIS BACK IS TURNED!

[illegible]

I'LL JUST PICK UP MY SILVER BULLET AND GO HOME!

VINAIGRETTO WAS RIGHT ALL ALONG...

NITELY WIRE SERVICE

SLAM

THERE'S NO POINT TRYING TO PROVE THE IMPOSSIBLE!

IT'S ALL BEEN A WASTE OF TIME.

NITELY WIRE SERVICE

NO BILLS

MARKET

SQUEEK-SQUEEK

SQUEEK SQUEEK

...AN UTTER WASTE OF TIME...

The [illegible]

THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE BOOM

GET DOWN OUT OF THAT BELL, QUASIMUDPUDDLE! I WARNED YOU BEFORE. NO MORE USING YOUR *HEAD* FOR A CLAPPER! YOU WANNA CRACK THE BELLS?

AW DON'T BE SO CRANKY, BOLTRO! THE WAY I JUST PLAYED *JINGLE BELLS* IT NEVER SOUNDED SO GOOD BEFORE!

IN JERSEY CALL 8-7-4

RING TWICE FOR ROOM SERVICE

BOOM

THAT'S WHY EVERYBODY'S COMPLAINING, YOU STOOPID PEEG! YOU'RE PLAYING JINGLE BELLS... AND IT'S *JULY!*

OH! I THOUGHT IT WAS *AUGUST!!* ANYWAY, QUIT YELLIN' AT ME, BOLTRO! REMEMBER, I'M *DEAF* AND CAN'T HEAR ANYTHING!

HAH! I *THOUGHT* YOU WAS A *FAKER*, QUASIMUDPUDDLE! I'M PUTTIN' YOU ON BREAD AND WATER FOR *90 DAYS!*

IT'LL BE A TREAT! ALL I'VE BEEN GETTIN' IS *STONES AND WATER!*

LOOK WHAT YOU HAVE DONE TO THE BELL, STOOPID! NOW I'LL HAVE TO CALL THE BELL-FIXER!

WHAT'LL YA CALL HIM? HO HO. THAT'S RICH!

THE NEXT DAY QUASIMUDPUDDLE WAS SENT FOR BY THE BELL-FIXER, MR. BONG...

BROKE THE BELL AGAIN, HUH? WHY DOES BOLTRO PAY YOU A SALARY?

HE DOESN'T!! I WORK FOR FREE!

SO WHY DON'T YOU QUIT?

HOW'LL I MAKE A LIVING?

THUD

LATER THAT DAY, BEAUTIFUL LILLY BONG, THE BELL-FIXER'S DAUGHTER, THE MOST KINDHEARTED WOMAN IN PARIS, BROUGHT HER FATHER HIS LUNCH...

WHERE'S MY FATHER, SIR?

GOSH! HE'S OVER... OOCH!

GET AWAY FROM MY DAUGHTER, MEAT-HEAD! BOLTRO... GET THE WHIP!

STOP! I BEG OF YOU... DON'T HIT LITTLE QUASIMUDPUDDLE WITH THAT WHIP!

CAN IT BE THAT SHE LIKES ME?

LET ME HIT 'IM WITH THIS WHIP!!

SNAP

QUASIMUDPUDDLE DIDN'T MIND PEOPLE HITTING HIM WITH ROCKS, WHIPS, STICKS AND OTHER HANDY THINGS, JUST AS LONG AS HE COULD TAKE A SWING ON HIS BEAUTIFUL BELLS EVERY DAY! BUT THEN ONE DAY, SOMETHING HAPPENED...

WOW, ARE YOU EVER BEAUTIFUL! WOULD YOU GIVE ME A LITTLE KICK OR HIT ME WITH A ROCK, PLEASE?

OH! THE FAMOUS QUASIMUDPUDDLE! I HEARD A LOT ABOUT YOU, HONEY! MY NAME IS FIFI LALA!

FIFI LALA! WHAT A WONDERFUL NAME... GIVE ME A KICK SO I CAN REMEMBER YOU, PLEASE ...A GOOD HARD ONE!

OH, BUT NO QUAS! I LIKE YOU! MAYBE I GIVE YOU A LITTLE KISS? NO?

NO!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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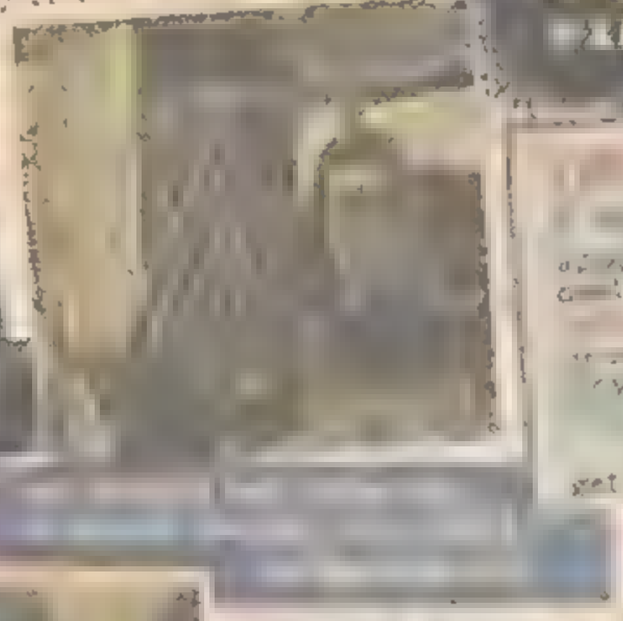
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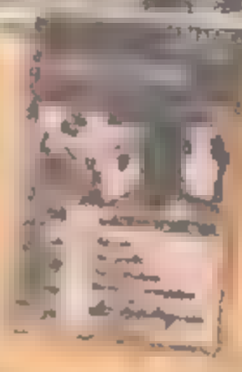
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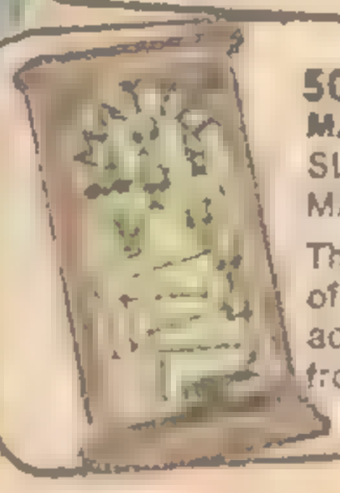
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THE LADY IS *JOKING*, PEEG! GET BACK TO YOUR BELLS BEFORE I RUN YOU THRU' DO NOT *SPEAK* TO COUNT GIGOLO'S GIRL FRIEND AGAIN!

OWWCH! *THAT* AIN'T THE PART OF MY BODY I SPEAK WITH!

SLASH

QUAS FELT BAD' BUT THE WORST WAS YET TO COME, FOR THAT SAME NIGHT AS HE WALKED TOWARD NOTRE DOOM...

STRING UP THE LEETLE PEEG' HE HAS *MURDERED* BONG, THE BELL-CASTER!

NO' I WOULDN'T HURT A *FLEA*! N FACT I *SAVE* FLEAS ... ALL OVER ME!

THERE WILL BE NO MORE *KILLINGS* WHEN WE STRING UP THE BEAST, QUAS MUDPUDDLE! *KILL* HEEM!

WITH A FACE LIKE MINE, IT'LL BE A PLEASURE TO DIE...

BOP

YOU CANNOT *HANG* THE GREAT BELL-RINGER! CUT HIM DOWN I SAY! YOU HAVE NO *EVIDENCE*! YOU CAN'T HANG HIM WITHOUT EVIDENCE!

THEY *CAN'T*, EH? TAKE A LOOK!

WE LET YOU LIVE THIS TIME, QUASIMUDPUDDLE! BUT IF YOU *EVER* COME OUT OF NOTRE DOOM AGAIN YOU WILL *DANCE* ON THE GALLOWS!

NOT *ME*!... I CAN'T DANCE!

FOR SIX MONTHS, QUASIMUDPUDDLE NEVER LEFT NOTRE DOOM'S BELL TOWER... AND THEN ONE NIGHT...

I WONDER WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO FIFI LALA? SHE WAS PRETTIER THAN A PRAIRIE HEN ON A BARN-YARD FENCE IN A MISSOURI MUD STORM!

BONG

POOR QUASIMUDPUDDLE DIDN'T HAVE HIS MIND ON HIS WORK, AND...

CLANG! BONG!

OOPS! I MADE A BOO-BOO!

LUCKY FOR ME I GOT BIG CALLOUSES ON MY HEAD FROM *BELL RINGING*! NOW, ALL I GOTTA DO IS CLIMB BACK UP ON THE TOWER!

YAARRGHH!

CAN'T BE NOBODY CALLIN' *ME*... MY NAME AIN'T *YAARRGHH*!

POOR LITTLE LILLY BONG! SHE'S DEAD! SOMEBODY KILLED HER! I BETTER GET OUTTA HERE BEFORE THEY SAY I DID IT!

LUCKY FOR ME NO ONE'S AROUND!

YAH! IT'S QUASIMODPUDDLE AGAIN! FIRST HE KILLED THE BELL-FIXER!... NOW HE KILLED HIS DAUGHTER, BONG! STRING HIM UP!

'BYE!

BAM WHACK BANG WAP

IT'S NOT ME I CARE ABOUT! I DON'T CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO ME! IT'S MY NECK THAT'S GOT ME WORRIED!

I'LL HIDE IN BOLTRO'S ROOM! HE'LL HELP ME! HE'S MY BOSS! HE'S GOT TO HELP ME! WHO ELSE WOULD WORK FOR HIM FOR NOTHING??!!

BOLTRO! YOU GOT BONGS BELL-FIXING TOOLS! YOU KILLED OLD BONG!

YEAH, I KILLED 'IM' AND YOU'RE GONNA HANG FOR IT, YOU LITTLE JERK!

STOP! YOU'LL TIRE YOURSELF OUT! TELL ME, BEFORE I DIE... WHY DID YOU KILL 'IM?

WHY? BECAUSE EVERY TIME THE BELLS GOT BROKE, HE CAME OVER AND FIXED THEM! HIS DAUGHTER HELPED HIM!

I CAN'T STAND YOU RINGIN' THEM BELLS NO MORE! BONG... BONG... BLANG! BELLS, BELLS, I HEAR 'EM IN MY SLEEP! BELLS ...BELLS... I HATE BELLS!

LISTEN! YOU JUST HIT A NEW NOTE! I DIDN'T KNOW YOU COULD PLAY!

BLORMC!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

GO APE !!



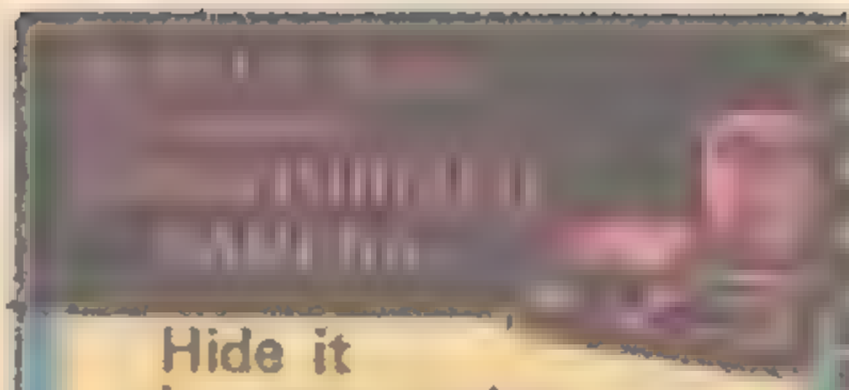
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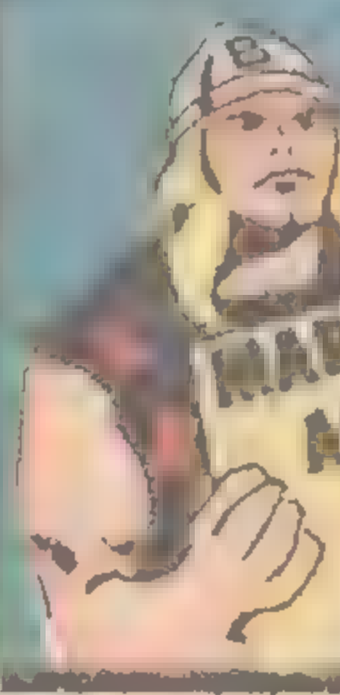
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DEATH TO QUASIMUD-PUDDLE! VIVE LA FRANCE! READ CRAZY, WILD AND R.I.O.T!

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YEAH.. BUY ME AN INSURANCE POLICY!

YOU CANNOT *HANG* MY SWEETHEART! I *LOVE* QUASIMUDPUDDLE! HE DIDN'T KILL NOBODY!

LEGGO, FIFI! YOU'RE *STRETCHING* YOUR SWEETHEART'S NECK!

SPUT

GAWK

CHOKE!

AWK

QUIET, FIFI! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SAYING! *HANG* HIM!

HAH! COUNT GIGOLO! I'VE BEEN *WAITIN'* FOR YOU TO SHOW UP!

YOU, COUNT GIGOLO, HELPED BOLTRO WITH THE MURDERS OF THE BELL-CASTER AND HIS DAUGHTER BECAUSE YOU WANTED TO GET *RID* OF THE BELLS AND BUILD A *BROOM FACTORY* SO YOU COULD CLEAN UP!

CURSES!

BABE...EEE! WHAT A HANDSOME FACE!

BRAVO, QUASIMUD-PUDDLE! HOORAY!

I TAKE OFF THE FAKE HUNCH... *SO!* VOILA! NOW I AM *SIX FEET* TALL! I'M REALLY HENRI HERO, PRIDE OF THE FRENCH POLICE! NOW, FIFI, WE GET MARRIED, NO?

NOT ON YOUR LIFE! I *LIKE* UGLY MEN!

SO GO FIGHT CITY HALL!

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TAKE THAT!

BANG!!

OUCH!!

WELL, WE SINCERELY HOPE YOU ENJOYED THAT, BUT OF COURSE IT HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH OUR STORY, THIS STORY IS ABOUT...



AND HIS WIFE, ZELDA...



ONE DAY NOT LONG AGO MARVIN AND ZELDA WERE OUT **WINDOW-SHOPPING.**



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

DYNAMIC [illegible] OF [illegible] UNCANNY [illegible] DESIGNED TO BOGGLE YOUR BRAIN!

Hey, trolls, remember the old Classics Comics mags? Remember how everyone loved those comic book versions of the world's greatest stories? Remember what a great help they were with school book reports? Well, ol' Marvel remembers, too. And that's why we're real excited to announce that your bleary-eyed Bullpen has done it again. We're bringing the classics back to life! We're starting a whole new series of 50¢ magazines, a full 48 pages per issue—with no ads! We expect Marvel's new line of classics to be the biggest thing since Aunt May's face lift, so watch for 'em, hear? There'll be more announcements coming your way elsewhere in our mags, so you've no excuse for missing 'em! Meanwhile, I winged my way to Penn State U. a few weeks ago to deliver some culture and erudition in the form of a liftin' lecture, and found the campus plastered with the word "blexcroid." No one would tell me what it meant unless I gave Penn State a plug here in the Soapbox. Well, you know me. I yield to no pressure! I don't have-ta mention Penn State. I'll bet we have enough Believers out there who'll tell me what blexcroid means without me mentioning Penn State. So there ya are, Penn State—I didn't mention you! Nyahh! And now, the announcement you've all been waiting for. At least, some of you have been waiting. Well, at any rate, my editor at Simon & Schuster has been waiting. Next ish, here in this very column, I'll reveal the long-awaited secret of which Marvel masterworks will be featured in the long-awaited sequel to the ORIGINS OF MARVEL COMICS! No, no, don't get too emotional about it—restrain those tears of joy and gratitude—you should be used to our beneficence by now. Or, as All-Father Odin might say, "The moment of departure hath arrived. Yea, verily, 'tis time to take a troll to lunch!"

Excelsior!

Stan

ITEM! Remember those bygone days when we'd tell titanic tales of how such motion picture greats as FEDERICO FELLINI and ALAIN RESNAIS would make it their policy to pop up at the mighty Marvel offices whenever in New York to amuse your bashful Bullpen with startling stories of how comic books had so greatly influenced their lives and transformed them from cherubic children into some of the world's greatest film directors? Well, Faithful One, those days have not yet passed! Just this week (that's Marvel Standard Time, O Keeper of the Flame, not to be confused with the week when you finally read these wondrous words), GEORGE PAL, producer of such well-remembered and deeply-cherished Science Fiction films as **The Time Machine** and **War of the Worlds**, dropped by 575 Madison Avenue to let us in on the behind-the-scenes scoop of what may say may be his greatest epic—DOC SAVAGE, MAN OF BRONZE! While he was here, Our Pal George got the chance to feast his eyes on [illegible] JOHN BUSCEMA's pulse-pounding pencils for the fifty-page extravaganza slated for the first issue of the Bronze Man's brand-new, bombastic, black-and-white mag coming your way [illegible] weeks. (And just so you don't think our cavortin' color mags are being ignominiously **ignored**, **we'll just** casually hint that you **should keep a** close watch at your **local newsstand** in the days to come so **you won't be one** of the unfortunate few to miss picking up our one-shot GIANT-SIZE DOC SAVAGE blockbuster. A word to the wise and all that.) Also, for those of you aching to know more about the man who is about to help make DOC SAVAGE a household word, be sure to catch the intricately in-depth interview with George Pal conducted by Cheerful CHRIS CLAREMONT and Sunny JIM HARMON in the pages of the aforementioned black-and-white blockbuster. 'Tis a pleasure not to be missed!

ITEM! Hey, **have you caught the latest masterpiece produced by our own Happy HERB TRIMPE? The Hulking One, anxious to get his talented hands on a war mag ever since the fate lamented Phantom Eagle flew his final mission just a few years gone (except, of course, for our way-out World War One Ace's off-beat guest-shot in GHOST RIDER #12, still on sale if you're lucky), leaped at the chance to draw the adventures of John Kowalski, who lives again and dies again in every issue of WAR IS HELL!** The only problem that presents is that Cheerful CHRIS CLAREMONT is so awed by Herb's pencilling that he's afraid to cover up any of the art with his captivating captions and wondrous word balloons! Say—would any of you out there be interested in a war mag without sound effects? We didn't think so.

ITEM! And speaking of superb pencillers who are outrageously enthusiastic about their latest art assignments, how about Buffalo BOB BROWN, Daredevil demon, who has just landed the pencilling chores (Gee, wonder why we keep calling these things we'd do for free "chores"?) on MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE, thus assuming the honor of drawing bashful, blue-eyed Benjamin J. Grimm on a bi-monthly basis. We've never seen anybody enjoy sketching an overgrown pile of lumpy orange rocks more!

ITEM! But before our riotous writers start getting depressed over the fact we haven't devoted a Bullpen Item entirely to them in quite a while, we'd better mention that STEVE (Baby) GERBER, Man-Thing maven, has just taken over the editorial reins of CRAZY magazine from Marvelous MARV WOLFMAN, who also passed Steve two Alka Seltzers and a bottle of aspirin. Good Luck, Steve—you may need it! Marvelous Marv, by the way, will finally put to use all the art training he gained teaching Junior High School, when he takes brush in hand and actually colors the debut issue of his brain child, SKULL THE SLAYER! On the short side, Dauntless DON McGREGOR will soon be scripting the adventures of one Luke Cage, POWER MAN! Granted, Don's sure excited about the project, but we still think that big iron chain he's started wearing around his waist will really hamper him when softball season rolls around again. (And just so Cheerful CHRIS WHAT'S-HIS-NAME doesn't get a swelled head from being mentioned so many times this month, we'll just whisper that he's the newest scripter of MARVEL PREMIERE's Martial Arts sensation, IRON FIST!) There! If that doesn't get those unruly writers off our backs, we don't know what will!

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MUST BE AN ATTACK ON FORT KNOX!

NOPE! THAT'S NOT IT...

EITHER WAY-- I'LL HAVE TO SET A TRAP!

MEANWHILE...

HAH! I'LL BLOW MYSELF A HOLE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE OCEAN SO BIG, IT'LL FLOOD THE WORLD!

NITRO! LOOK! CAPTAIN MARVEL IS ESCORTING THAT SHIP!

MUST BE CARRYING VALUABLE CARGO! LET'S FOLLOW HIM FIRST!

LOOK! THE SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN IS OPENING UP!

AND MARVEL'S TURNING BACK- THE SHIP WAS PROBABLY ON REMOTE CONTROL!

LET'S CAPTURE THAT SHIP AND GET THE TREASURE!

HA! THEY'RE TAKING THE BAIT!

LATER INSIDE THE MOUNTAIN...

MMM- WE'VE GOT ENOUGH HOSTESS TWINKIES TO LAST A MONTH!

WOW! GOLDEN SPONGE CAKE WITH CREAMY FILLING INSIDE!

THAT WILL KEEP NITRO BUSY FOR A WHILE! I KNEW HE'D GET A BIG BANG OUT OF HOSTESS TWINKIES!

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MMM-

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NOW THAT THEY BOUGHT THE WINDOW, THEY DECIDED TO BUY A HOUSE! FOR AS YOU KNOW, "A WINDOW WITHOUT A HOUSE IS LIKE A BOOK WITHOUT A LIBRARY"...

NOW WE MUST BUY A HOUSE, ZELDA, MY LOVE, FOR AS YOU KNOW A WINDOW WITHOUT A HOUSE IS, ETC. ETC!

YOU AIN'T GOOD LOOKIN', BUT YOU SURE GOT A HEAD ON YOUR SHOULDERS, MARVIN!

AND SO OUR DREAMY-EYED COUPLE HEADED FOR THE NEAREST REAL ESTATE OFFICE!

REAL ESTATE "YOUR REAL ESTATE FOR REAL"

LITTLE DID THEY KNOW WHAT TERRIFYING SPECTER LAY IN WAIT BEHIND THAT MYSTERIOUS DOOR!

COME IN!

KNOCK KNOCK

CAN I HELP YOU?

SAY! HAVEN'T I SEEN YOU SOMEPLACE BEFORE!! YER FACE IS FAMILIAR!

NEVER! DO YOU HEAR? YOU'VE NEVER SEEN ME BEFORE, UNDERSTAND? NEVER! NEVER! NEVER!

AWRIGHT AWREADY. SO I NEVER SEEN YA BEFORE! DON'T LOOK AT ME THAT WAY!

I'M SORRY! I LOST MY HEAD! BUT I'M VERY QUICK-TEMPERED, I KNOW! ANYWAY, WHAT CAN I DO DO FOR YOU, HMMM?

WE CAME TO BUY A HOUSE! YOU SEEM TO HAVE AN HONEST FACE... CAN YOU HELP US?

FOLLOW ME!

IT'S JUST ONE FLIGHT DOWN...YOU'LL BE DELIGHTED... RUNNING WATER ALL THE TIME!

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AS MARVIN AND ZELDA RESTED COZILY BY THE FIREPLACE, A STRANGE THING BEGAN TO OCCUR...



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